

W. H. & S. Dillon, Crayke

SEAHAM HARBOUR

Urban District Council.



ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 1896,

OF

The Medical Officer of Health.



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W. J. Young, Printer and Stationer, 28, North Railway Street.

1897.

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To the Members of the Seaham Harbour Urban District Council.



GENTLEMEN,

In compliance with the regulations of the Local Government Board, I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1896.

The population estimated to June 30th, 1896, was 9,830 ; area, 1,088 acres.

428 births have been registered during the past year, giving a birth rate of 43·5 per thousand, as against 42·1 in 1895, and 37·1 in 1894. Of these births 229 were male and 199 female.

During the year, 215 deaths of persons belonging to this district occurred, including 7 in Easington Workhouse and 1 in Sunderland Infirmary. This gives a death rate of 21·8 per thousand as against 21·7 in 1895, and 24·5 in 1894.

21 deaths were due to phthisis, equal to a rate of 2·1, which is higher than the previous year, when the rate was 1·6.

Respiratory death rate was 4·6, as against 4·1 in 1895.

I have much pleasure in reporting that the zymotic death rate was only 1·4, as against 4·0 in 1895, and 4·4 in 1894, which is very satisfactory.

91 deaths under 1 year of age were registered. This gives an infant mortality rate of 212·6, which is very high, and due chiefly to injudicious feeding and hereditary diseases.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

114 cases of infectious disease were notified.

Scarlet fever was more or less prevalent through the year, 86 cases having been notified. It was, fortunately, of a mild type, and only 2 deaths occurred. Every possible precaution was taken, but I consider it very difficult to prevent the spread of this disease when the type is mild, as parents will not be persuaded to keep their children isolated.

There was no epidemic of measles during the year, and no case of diphtheria, typhus, or puerperal fever reported.

14 cases of Typhoid occurred, 5 of which terminated fatally. No common cause could be discovered, the cases being scattered over the district.

During the months of February and July there was no case of infectious disease notified.

GENERAL SANITATION.

The ashpits have been regularly emptied by the employees of the Council. I hope those with a proper hatch for cleansing may be more generally adopted.

The dairies and lodging houses have been regularly inspected and found in a satisfactory condition.

The sanitary condition of several houses has been much improved, under the supervision of Mr. Burrell, who carefully inspected the drains and saw that they were properly trapped.

The main sewers have been flushed when necessary and several improvements made.

New sanitary bye-laws are in course of preparation and, I hope, will soon be adopted.

The water supply was of the same satisfactory character, as shown by the following analysis :

County Analyst's Office,
Darlington,
January, 12th, 1897.

To Mr. JAMES BURRELL, Surveyor, Seaham Harbour.

"I hereby certify that I have analysed a sample of water marked 'sample for analysis,' which I received from you on the 7th January, 1897, and that I find as follows :—

Colour and Appearance.. Absolutely colourless, and clear in a 2 foot tube
Odour when heated to 100° Fahr. None

							Grains per Gallon
Chlorine as Chlorides	..	..	..	..	..	..	2·1700
Nitrogen as Nitrates ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	·1152
Ammonia .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	None
Albuminoid Ammonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	None
Oxygen Absorption ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	·0130
Injurious Metals ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	None
Total Solid Matter, dried at 220° Fahr.	..	..	..	..	..	..	24·5000
Microscopical Examination ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Satisfactory

OBSERVATIONS.

After carefully reviewing the results of my analysis, I am of opinion that the sample is a sample of good and wholesome drinking water.

W. F. KEATING STOCK, F.I.C.,
Water Examiner to the Durham County Council.

The rainfall was 26·580 inches, as against 30·069 in 1895, and 25·071 in 1894.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
L. GERALD DILLON.

BIRTHS.

Months.	Male.	Female.	Monthly Totals.
January	25	15	40
February	17	8	25
March	16	23	39
April	25	19	44
May	20	18	38
June	16	19	35
July.. ..	29	12	41
August	15	15	30
September	15	16	31
October	20	17	37
November	19	14	33
December	12	23	35
YEARLY TOTALS ..	229	199	428

DEATHS AT SUBJOINED AGES.

Months.	At all Ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 Year and under 5	5 Years and under 15	15 Years and under 25	25 Years and under 65.	65 Years and up- wards.
January	15	5	5		1	3	1
February	17	6			2	6	3
March	13	6			2	2	3
April	15	9		1	1	4	
May	15	6	3	1		1	4
June	11	5		1		3	2
July.. ..	20	14	2	1	1	2	
August	28	9	4	2	2	7	4
September	21	9	4	1	2	3	2
October	27	10	4	2		7	4
November	11	5	2	1	1		2
December	22	7	2		2	9	2
YEARLY TOTALS ..	215	91	26	10	14	47	27

DEATHS, WITH CERTAIN OF THE SPECIAL CAUSES.

Months.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric or Typhoid Fever.	Measles.	Diarrhoea and Dysentery.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Injuries.	All other Diseases.	Monthly Totals.
January ..	1	1			2	2		1	8	15
February ..		1			2	3	2		9	17
March ..		1			1	5	1		5	13
April ..					2	2	4		7	15
May ..					1	4			10	15
June ..						4			7	11
July ..			3	1	1	7			8	20
August ..			1	1	5	5	3		13	28
September ..		1		1	2	2	1		14	21
October ..					2	5	3		17	27
November ..		1				3			7	11
December ..	1				3	4	1		13	22
Yearly Totals	2	5	4	3	21	46	15	1	118	215

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (NOTIFICATION) ACT, 1889.

CASES NOTIFIED.

Months.			No. of Cases Notified.	CAUSES.		
				Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhoid Fever.
January	..	..	6	1	4	1
February	..	..		
March..	..	..	8	2	4	2
April ..	..	..	16	4	10	2
May ..	..	..	8	3	5	
June ..	..	..	3		3	
July ..	..	..		
August	..	..	7		2	5
September	..	..	17		15	2
October	..	..	18	1	16	1
November	..	..	26	3	22	1
December	..	..	5		5	
Yearly Totals	..		114	14	86	14

CASES NOTIFIED AT SUBJOINED AGES.

Months.	No. of Cases.	Under 1 Year.	1 Year and under 5.	5 Years and under 15.	15 Years and under 25.	25 Years and under 65.
January	6		1	2	2	1
February						
March	8		2	3		3
April	16	1	1	2	9	3
May	8		3	2	3	
June	3		2	1		
July						
August	7			3	3	1
September	17			16	1	
October	18			14	1	3
November	26		3	20	1	2
December	5		3	2		
YEARLY TOTALS.. ..	114	1	15	65	20	13

